

US Army Corps of Engineers

Walla Walla District Public Affairs Office

News Release

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Corps' recreational craft lockage schedule returns May 15

Walla Walla, Wash. - The seasonal schedule for recreational craft to be passed up- and down-stream through the Walla Walla District navigation locks on the lower Snake River and at McNary Dam on the Columbia River, will return on May 15, according to an operations division official at the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The seasonal recreation craft lock schedule continues the program started several years ago for water and energy conservation. The schedule will be in effect May 15-Sept. 15, according to Wayne John, the District's chief of operations.

The schedule includes lockages five times daily spaced about every three hours apart through McNary Dam near Umatilla, Ore., Ice Harbor Dam near the Tri-Cities, Lower Monumental Dam near Kahlotus, Little Goose Dam near Starbuck and Lower Granite Dam near Pomeroy. Upstream lockages will be at 9 a.m., noon, 3, 6 and 9 p.m. Downstream lockages will be at 9:30 a.m., 12:30, 3:30, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. There are a total of 10 lockages a day at each site.

Commercial traffic will be locked through upon demand. Whenever possible, and at the discretion of the lock master, recreational vessels may be locked through with commercial craft if safety and other conditions permit. Groups and flotillas can be granted special lockages outside regular schedules, with prior arrangement and coordination completed in advance.

The schedule was modified in 2001 to conserve lockages in a low water year. That schedule was continued past Sept. 15, 2001 due to security concerns at the dams and will be in effect until May 14. The current schedule provides three upstream lockages at 8, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. and three downstream lockages at 8:30, 11:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. The schedule for Sept. 16, 2002–April 30, 2003 has not been determined at this time.

To request a special lockage at McNary, Ice Harbor or Lower Monumental, call Randall Ryan at (509) 547-7781. To request a special lockage at Little Goose or Lower Granite, call Charlie Krahenbuhl at (509) 751-0250. For more information, call Ann Glassley in the District's Operations Division at (509) 527-7115, Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Information is also available on the web at www.nww.usace.army.mil.